



PHOTOGRAPHY/ GARY MCKELLAR

Midwife Dianne Bjarnson holds her daughter Diini, born at home in February. The infant has been drafted into Utah's undeclared war over midwifery.



PHOTOGRAPHY/ TOM SMART

A mother and her two daughters share the experience of greeting their new family member, a baby girl, at LDS Hospital's birthing room. Certified nurse midwives help with the delivery with qualified physicians as backup.

Where are the candidates for Utah education board?

The general election this fall could have an impact on public education in Utah for years to come if people with leadership and vigor file for the five positions on the Utah State Board of Education which are up for re-election this fall.

But few seem to want the job. With just a few days left before the June 25 filing deadline, only 11 people — four of them incumbents — have filed for the five offices.

The decision to run for office can't be made the day of the deadline. Those who file have to collect the signatures of 100 registered voters and have those named certified by a county clerk before the June 25 filing deadline.

Public education in Utah is at a crossroads and badly needs strong leadership. The Utah Board of Education — by merit of constitutional powers no other governing board has — is in a prime position to lead out in educational reform in the state.

Those who want to make a difference

and bureaucratic inertia are elected to the Utah Board of Education, the board can lead out in the changes that must be made in Utah's education.

Unless Utah greets the next decade's army of children with competent teachers, adequate space, vigorous curricula, and inventive planning, we will fall farther behind not only in education, but also in the economic development that can result from good schools. Worse, the confusion and resentment that is nipping at education now may one day bind the system to mediocrity.

This year's election is a critical one for the board. The majority of seats — five of the nine — are up for election. Those five seats represent several counties, including Davis, Salt Lake, Carbon, Emery, Dagget, Uintah, Duchesne, Grand, Sanpete, Sevier, Juab, Millard, Tooele, Box Elder, Beaver, Iron, Garfield, Kane, and Washington counties.

With the majority of the seats up for grabs, the November results could dra-



Hart and Democrats have a problem